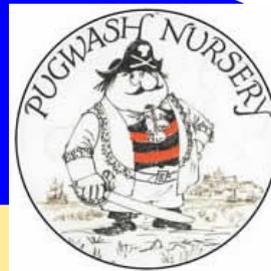




MAY NEWSLETTER 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this today I am feeling incredibly proud of our wonderful children, this is not a new emotion; I have felt proud of them since I started here at Rye! However, this year in particular I have really seen how much our children love their school and how proud they are to be a part of this community and this has been the driver for them wanting to engage and be a part of our continual school improvement. Our children really are our greatest asset at this school, something which I tell every visitor who walks through the door. Although, I have to say I don't need to tell them as they can see that the minute they meet our children.

This term our children have wanted to focus on becoming a green school. This has been particularly evident in the items that the Children's Leadership Team are bringing to each fortnightly meeting. This has been the focus of many of these "school council type" meetings and has ultimately resulted in our school being awarded a Silver Green Mark award, (more details of this and other initiatives can be found on our new green page). We are very proud of the awareness our pupils have of our impact on the environment, but also the way in which they recognise that we can "all be the change we wish to see in the world".

One change we discussed was reducing the amount of paper we use as a school. Currently, roughly one hundred families receive paper copies of all of our letters. That is almost one quarter of our families, not only does this cost the planet, but it costs the school! We are continually improving communication and this means messages are being sent home more frequently. However, this also means that we are spending more and more on paper and also in terms of work load, it takes up a lot of time for the office staff to duplicate all messages on to paper.

Therefore, as an incentive, to encourage ALL parents to provide us with an email address, if you do not currently have communications sent home via email and you provide us with your email address we will be giving you one free entry into an end of year raffle, with very exciting prizes! To qualify for this you need to send in your email address to the school office by the end of term 5! You can send this in via your email address as our preferred method or you can recycle and send it in on the back of an envelope or a napkin!

We know that lots of parents who interact with us via social media have not yet given us an email address and we really would urge you to, as this is the quickest and most effective way of us sending timely messages out on mass. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding on this matter.

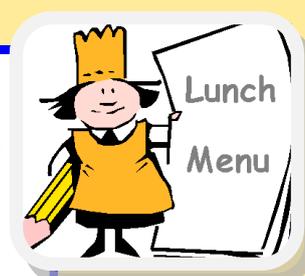
Miss Martin

Head of School

KS2 School Dinners

You should all have received the latest menu, if you haven't please call into the office to collect one.

Please could we ask that you look at the menu with your child before they come to school each day; as there are new options available to KS2 children, as well as the usual vegetarian meal and jacket potato.



Attendance News



Whole School attendance currently stands at 94.5%

Unfortunately this is lower than last year when attendance stood at 95.2%

Medical Appointments

Thank you to all our parents who are arranging medical appointments outside of school time.

So far this year **146** sessions, the equivalent of **73** school days, have been missed from school due to medical appointments; including dental and opticians appointments. This is an improvement on last year when 202 sessions (101 days) were missed. However please make sure every effort is taken to make all non-urgent appointments outside of school hours.

Term Time Absence

So far this year **593** sessions, the equivalent of **296.5** school days have been missed due to holidays being taken during term time. Please ensure when arranging holiday that it is taken during the school holidays. Holidays taken during term time will be recorded as unauthorised and may be subject to a fixed penalty fine and possible legal proceedings

Class Percentages

3rd September until 6th May

- Minnows 95%**
- Sardines 94.8%**
- Clownfish 94.6%**
- Seahorses 93.7%**
- Sea Turtles 95.1%**
- Lobsters 96.3%**
- Cuttlefish 94.7%**
- Barracudas 93.7%**
- Stingrays 93.8%**
- Killer Whales 95%**
- Marlin 94.5%**
- Jellyfish 94.9%**
- Dolphins 93.6%**
- Sharks 94.2%**

Punctuality

Thank you to all our children arriving at school on time. Children do need to be in school between 8:30 and 8:45 am, this enables the class to be settled and ready to learn. Children arriving after this time will be marked as late. If you are struggling to get to school on time then please speak to your child's class teacher or the school office, they will be able to give you advice on strategies that may help you in the morning.

So far this year 1047 late marks have been given, this is less than the same period last year, when 1191 late marks were recorded; However I am sure you will agree it is still far too high.



Attendance Reward

Well done to all children achieving 100% attendance in terms 3 and 4.

Especially well done to Belle for winning a family ticket to the Kino cinema in term 3 and to Ruby and Charlotte for both winning a family swim with Freedom leisure.



A big thank you to The Kino and Freedom Leisure for making our attendance draws possible.



Reminder

Please can we remind you that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea they need to be kept off from school for 48 hours from their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Thank you



Green News.....



We hope you enjoy reading our Green News page in this issue of the newsletter. As you can see are trying to do our bit to help the environment, please help us where you can.

We do still have a lot of families receiving paper copies of letters, all of our letters can be viewed on mobile devices as well as a computer. Please let the school office know you would like to stop receiving paper copies

Birdfeeders...

The children have been very interested watching the birds in the wildlife garden. Unfortunately our feeders have been looking a bit empty and we would be really grateful for any donations of bird food, thank you.



New Ties

We have recently placed an order for school ties, they will be made from recycled water bottles and each tie will save 2 bottles from ending up in landfill. The ties will soon be available in two sizes to buy from the school office. We will let you know as soon we have them in stock.



By making ties from recycled bottles, we're reducing the amount of plastic in our environment

Thank you to everyone sending their old batteries into school, this will help save thousands of tonnes of batteries from ending up in landfill.

There are also prizes for the schools collecting the most batteries.

Please visit www.bigbatteryhunt.co.uk



We are pleased to inform you that as a result of the wonderful efforts our pupils, parents and staff have made participating in Green Footsteps campaign we have been awarded the 2019 Silver Green Travel Mark. Well done to everyone for participating, lets keep this going and see if we can make more green journeys and keep even more cars off the road.



Litter Pickers

Our Children's Leadership Team have recently taken delivery of 30 litter pickers. They have been doing a brilliant job of organising litter picking around the playground. Thank you to all the children involved. Keep up the good work



Pugwash News

Spring has Sprung!

The children have been busy learning about Spring at Pugwash. They enjoyed the warmer weather we had a couple of weeks ago and have been painting pictures of Spring flowers, making chocolate nest cakes and this week they are beginning to plant some seeds .



Suncream

As the warmer weather is approaching we are thinking about suncream. Please can we ask you all to put sun cream on your child before they attend nursery. It is very time consuming for staff to have to apply suncream to all children, causing them to miss out on valuable learning time.



Outside Learning Space

Pugwash are still developing their outside learning space and would be grateful for any of the following items you may be able to donate:

- ◆ Guttering for water play
- ◆ Plant pots and gardening items including watering cans
- ◆ Natural materials
- ◆ Seeds

Thank you



Spring Fair Fun

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Spring Fair just before Easter. We have had a lot of positive comments from parents and are very grateful to the PTA and all the volunteers who made the event possible.

The afternoon began with an Easter Bonnet Parade around the playground. There were some amazing bonnets! Activities included making a bird feeder, planting a seed, guessing the number of eggs in a jar, chocolate tombola, bottle tombola, Easter egg hunt and a hop-a-thon. On top of all that we welcomed a very special guest in the shape of the Easter Bunny!



Well done Zack!

A few weeks ago, Zack made the brave decision to have his long hair cut off and donated to The Little Princess Trust which is a charity that uses donated human hair to turn into wigs that are then given to children who have lost their hair through illness or medical treatment.

Zack had been thinking for a while about cutting his hair shorter, but when he discovered that his hair could be donated he decided that this was something that he would like to do. His family are very proud of him and the fact that he made the decision by himself to donate his hair to help other children and we are very proud of him as a school! Well done Zack!



Wear A Hat Success

The Wear A Hat Day which we held at the end of last term was a great success! Children and staff wore hats of all shapes, colours and sizes to school to raise money for Brain Tumour Research. We raised an amazing £112.00.

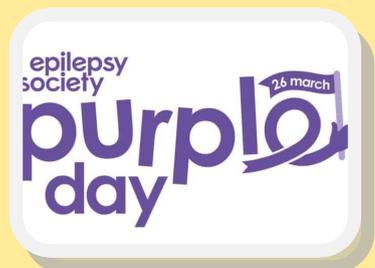
Mrs Ruffhead however took it a step further and wore a different hat every day for the whole of the month of March! We all looked forward to finding out what type of hat she would come to school in!



Purple Day

We were very pleased to be able to support Purple Day 2019— International Young Epilepsy Day last term. Children and staff came to school dressed in purple and we raised £127.00.

This cause was brought to our attention by Ivy-Rose, a Year 2 pupil, and we are very proud of her for being so caring and understanding. Well done :)



May Day Celebrations

We were very pleased to welcome Romney Marsh Morris when they came along to help us celebrate May Day as the beginning of the summer. The tradition dates back 500 years and the children learnt about the traditional instruments used and about the different dances, they even got the chance to join, as did some of the staff!

Dates for your Diary...

May

- 13th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 13th SATs—All Week
- 16th Love Your Leftovers—parents course 9.00—11.00
- 17th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 20th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 20th YR & Yr 5 owed swimming lesson
- 22nd Year 5 Learning Celebration 2.00
- 23rd Parents Forums 9.00 / 2.00 / 6.00
- 23rd Year 2 Learning Celebration 2.15
- 24th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 24th Last Day of Term 5**

June

- 3rd First Day of Term 6**
- 3rd Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 7th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 10th Phonics screening—All Week
- 10th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 10th Dental check for 5 year olds (where parents have consented)
- 10th Year 2 Animal Extravaganza
- 13th Off to Bake—parents course 9.00-11.00
- 14th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 17th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 17th Aspirations Week—All week
- 20th Nursery Leavers Pictures
- 20th Off to Bake—parents course 9.00-11.00
- 21st Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 21st Reducing Challenging Behaviour Course—parent course—12.00-3.00
- 24th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 26th Ready Steady Go in the Children's Centre 3.00-5.00
- 27th Off to Bake—parents course 9.00-11.00
- 28th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 28th Reducing Challenging Behaviour Course- parent course-12.00-3.00

July

- 1st Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 1st Year 5 Bikeability—all week
- 3rd Ready Steady Go in the Children's Centre 3.00-5.00
- 4th Off to Bake—parents course 9.00-11.00
- 5th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 5th Reducing Challenging Behaviour Course—parent course—12.00-3.00
- 8th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 9th Parents Forums 9.00 / 2.00 / 6.00
- 10th KS1 Sports Day a.m.
- 10th Ready Steady Go in the Children's Centre 3.00-5.00
- 11th KS2 Sports Day a.m.
- 12th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 15th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 15th Year 6 Residential Trip—all week
- 17th Summer Fair
- 19th Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 22nd Tea & Toast from 8.00a.m.
- 24th SAL's Shoe Collection
- 24th Break up for Summer Holiday

